

Thus of the species now described two were known to Weigmann, and described by him, namely, *Chilensis*, and *nigromaculatus*. I received from Capt. King, *Chilensis*, *pictus*, *cyanogaster*, *Kingii*, *Fitzingerii*, and, from other sources, *Chilensis*, *pictus*, *Weigmannii*. Bibron describes the whole of these, excepting *Kingii*, and in addition to them *tenuis*, *pectinatus*, *signifer*. In Mr. Darwin's collection are found all those described by Bibron, excepting *signifer*; and in addition *Kingii* now first described, and the following species never before observed, namely, *Darwini*, *gracilis*, *Bibronii*.

Although the form of the whole of the species much more nearly approximates that of the Agamidæ than most others, they are far removed from that family by several important characters, which it is unnecessary here to detail.

#### PROCTOTRETUS CHILENSIS.

PLATE I.—FIG. 1.

*Auribus margine anteriore dentato; collo non plicato; squamis dorsi magnis, rhombeis; aculé carinatis; serie unicâ squamarum supralabialium.*

*Calotes Chilensis*, Less. et Garn. Voy. de la Coquille, Zool. Rep. t. i. f. 2.

*Tropidurus Chilensis*, Weigm. Act. Acad. Cæs. Leop. Carol. Nat. cur. xvii. pp. 233. 268.

*Proctotretus Chilensis*, Bibr. Hist. Nat. des Rep. IV. p. 269.

Sun. *Tropidurus nitidus*, Weigm. l. c. p. 234, t. xvii. f. 2.

Var. *Tr. olivaceus*, Ib. l. c. p. 268.

Habitat, Guasco in Northern Chile.

DESCRIPTION.—Head short and broad, rostrum rounded, obtuse. Scales of the head large, and slightly raised, separated by distinct grooves. Superciliary ridge strongly marked, forming a distinct carina, composed of five or six narrow, elongated, obliquely imbricated scales. Nostrils large, nearly round. A single series of narrow scales between those of the upper lip and the orbit. Scales of the temples imbricated, rhomboidal and carinated. The opening of the ear oval, rather large, furnished anteriorly with three or four projecting scales, of which the upper one is the largest. The neck is short, robust and round, and without any lateral fold; in which it differs from every other species of the genus. The trunk is thick, rounded on the back and sides, flattened beneath, diminishing toward either extremity. The tail is ordinarily almost twice as long as the body, thick at its origin, and tapering regularly to the extremity, nearly round, excepting near the base, where it is slightly quadrilateral. The anterior feet when placed against the sides, extend backwards little more than mid-way between the shoulder and the groin; the posterior ones, stretched forward, reach the arm-pit.

The scales of the whole upper and lateral parts of the body, tail, and limbs, are loosely imbricated, large, rhomboidal, and furnished with an elevated carina, terminating in an acute point: those of the under parts are large, smooth, and obtuse.

This is one of the most beautiful species of the genus. The general form is robust and solid, forming a remarkable contrast with most other species of the genus. The surface is beautifully relieved by the fine, large and prominent scales, which are ranged in rows of perfect regularity, of which there are about eighteen on the back and side.

In colour and markings the individuals differ considerably; so as to have given rise to the opinion that they form three distinct species. Monsieur Bibron mentions two principal varieties, constituting the *Tropidurus olivaceus* and *Tr. Chilensis* of Weigmann. In the former, the colour is of a more or less bronzed bright green, or yellowish, according as the green or yellow colour prevails on the scales, each of which is green, with a border of yellow on each side: this border, according to M. Bibron, in some individuals of a blood-red colour. In some, especially in young individuals, there are several waved bands running transversely across the back.

In the second variety, says M. Bibron, the upper parts are either of an olive colour, with a golden glance in certain lights, or fulvous, with more or less of a yellow tint; and these have always four brown bands running the length of the body, appearing as if formed of a series of large spots united together. "The temples are marked with a black line, which extends from the posterior angle of the eye to the ear; another divides behind the occiput into two branches, which pass to the neck there to join the dorsal bands." There are other variations of colour, but scarcely deserving to be considered as constituting permanent or fixed varieties; the largest and finest specimen I have seen, which I received from Chile, is almost uniformly of a fine metallic green, without any markings.

#### DIMENSIONS.

	Inches.	Lines.
Length of the head.....	0	9
of the body .....	3	5
of the tail .....	6	0
Total length.....	10	4
Length of anterior extremity .....	2	0
of posterior extremity .....	1	2

This species would appear to be very common in Chile, from the numerous specimens from that country in the museum in Paris, which were brought by M. Gay, and by M. D'Orbigny. I have also received specimens from Capt. King. I find only one or two specimens in Mr. Darwin's collection, which he found at Guasco in Chile.